

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

- 5        1. A dental tool apparatus for use with a curing lamp in filling a tooth preparation, the apparatus comprising: an elongate handle, and with the elongate handle held in a horizontal attitude, one end of the elongate handle extends upwardly at an angle of between 20 and 45 degrees with respect to the horizontal; the one end of the elongate handle engaging a light transmissive utility element having an upwardly facing convex top surface, a cone shaped body extending downwardly from the top surface, and a workpiece extending downwardly from the cone shaped body; with the elongate handle held in the horizontal attitude, the workpiece presenting a vertical contact surface for pushing on a vertical surface of the tooth preparation.
- 10        2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cone shaped body has a hyperbolic surface.
- 15        3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the one end of the elongate handle provides a ring shaped receiving surface and the workpiece provides a corresponding insertion surface, the surfaces enabled for engaging the workpiece with the handle.
- 20        4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the receiving surface and the insertion surface are correspondingly tapered.
- 25        5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the vertical contact surface faces the elongate handle for distal fillings.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the vertical contact surface faces away from the handle for mesial fillings.
7. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least one marginal ridge guide line at the intersection of the cone shaped body and the workpiece, the guide line oriented horizontally when the elongate handle is held horizontally.
8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the guide line is formed within the utility element by focused laser light leaving no surface deformation.